

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /088 W

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R 190950Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8550

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: M/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, MZ, RH

SUBJ: CUBANS TO ASSIST IN RHODESIAN STRUGGLE

ACCORDING TO JUSTIN NYOKA

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF RHODESIAN JOURNALISTS AND MUZOREWA ASSOCIATE, JUSTIN NYOKA, REVEALED FOLLOWING THOUGHTS AND PREDICTIONS CONCERNING SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

2. NKOMO-SMITH TALKS. NYOKA SAID NKOMO AND SMITH WERE STILL VERY FAR AWAY FROM ANY TYPE OF SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA EVEN THOUGH PRESSURES WERE BUILDING ON NKOMO TO PRODUCE SOME EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS. NKOMO, HE SAID, HAD ALREADY THREATENED SMITH WITH BREAKING OFF THE TALKS AND PUBLICIZING THE POSITIONS PRESENTED IN DISCUSSIONS TO DATE IN AN ATTEMPT TO FORCE FURTHER FLUIDITY IN THE SMITH POSITIONS. THE MUZOREWA FACTION WAS

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CONVINCED, NYOKA SAID, THAT NKOMO WOULD HAVE TO BREAK OFF THE

TALKS SOON SINCE SMITH WAS NOWHERE NEAR AGREEING TO THE MINIMUM NKOMO POSITIONS OF MAJORITY RULE, EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, LAND REFORM, ETC.

3. GUERILLA WAR, CUBA AND MOZAMBIQUE. NYOKA MAINTAINED THAT THE MUZOREWA ANC FACTION AND MILITARY WINGS ARE NOW FIRMLY ESTABLISHED IN MOZAMBIQUE AND THAT AS THE MPLA SUCCESS IN ANGOLA BECOMES MORE EVIDENT AND THE NKOMO-SMITH TALKS FAIL, ATTENTION WILL SHIFT TO A RESUMPTION OF LARGE-SCALE GUERILLA ACTIVITY IN RHODESIA. NYOKA MAINTAINS THAT MOZAMBIQUE IS NOW PREPARED TO CLOSE THE BORDER TO RHODESIA WITHIN WEEK OF THE END OF THE STRUGGLE IN ANGOLA, THAT MACHEL HAS PROMISED FRELIMO ARMED SUPPORT FOR THE ANC GUERILLAS. NYOKA ALSO SAID MACHEL HAS ARRANGED FOR CUBAN ADVISORS AND POSSIBLY TROOPS NOW IN ANGOLA TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT. NYOKA COULD NOT PROVIDE DETAILS OF SUPPOSED CUBAN SUPPORT, THOUGH HE SAID THE MUZOREWA FACTION FELT THAT THE CUBANS HAD BEATEN THE SOUTH AFRICANS IN ANGOLA AND DID NOT FEEL ANY SOUTH AFRICAN HELP ON THE SIDE OF THE SMITH GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMING GUERILLA STRUGGLE.

4. COMMENT: NYOKA IS WELL-HOOKED INTO THE MUZOREWA ANC FACTION AND IS GENERALLY-RESPECTED JOURNALIST AND OCCASIONAL STRINGER FOR THE BBC. HIS COMMENTS AND PREDICTIONS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY BASED ON RECENT CONTACTS IN MOZAMBIQUE WITH THAT FACTION. RUMORS AND REPORTS THAT THE CUBANS WILL TAKE UP PLACES IN MOZAMBIQUE AFTER THE ANGOLAN ADVENTURE ARE WIDESPREAD IN MALAWI. STEVENSON

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